

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02224 081427 Z

47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 004752

O R 081355 Z MAY 73  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9984  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 2224

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: NATO, PARM  
SUBJECT: MEETINGS WITH UK AND FRG ON " U. S. APPROACH TO MBFR"

VIENNA FOR DEAN

REF: ( A ) USNATO 2126; ( B ) BONN 6260; ( C ) BONN 6380

1. IT IS DESIRABLE THAT BILATERAL OR TRILATERAL MEETINGS WITH UK AND FRG IN CONNECTION WITH EXPERT VISIT ON " U. S. APPROACH TO MBFR" BE HELD IN BRUSSELS AFTER REPEAT AFTER NAC MEETING WITH EXPERTS.

2. WE ARE ENTERING AN IMPORTANT PERIOD OF ALLIED MBFR CONSULTATION. WE CAN SAVE OURSELVES A GOOD DEAL OF TROUBLE BY CAREFULLY CONTROLLING THE PASSING OF INFORMATION ABOUT OUR POSITION ON MBFR TO THE ALLIES. THIS IS TRUE IN A SECURITY SENSE AS I HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED HERE, BUT IT IS ALSO TRUE IN THE SENSE OF BEING CONSISTENT IN WHAT OUR SEVERAL SPOKESMEN SAY TO THE ALLIES IS BEING SEEN AS DEALING WITH OUR ALLIES EQUITABLY.

3. I RECOGNIZE OF COURSE THAT CERTAIN OF OUR ALLIES WISH TO  
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02224 081427 Z

HOLD DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH US OUTSIDE OF NATO. SUCH DISCUSSIONS ARE USEFUL. HOWEVER, I SEE CLEAR ADVANTAGE IN CENTERING THE LOCUS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS ON NEGOTIATING POSITIONS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE IN WASHINGTON AND IN BRUSSELS. FOR

THAT REASON I SUGGEST THAT IN CONNECTION WITH THE VISIT OF U. S. EXPERTS TO BRUSSELS, WE MAKE CLEAR THAT ALL ALLIES WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEETINGS WITH U. S. EXPERTS IN BRUSSELS AFTER REPEAT AFTER NAC DISCUSSION AND ANY OTHER FORMAL MEETINGS THAT MAY BE SCHEDULED HERE. IN THIS WAY, BILATERAL OR TRILATERAL MEETINGS WITH UK AND FRG WOULD BE SEEN AS HAVING THE SAME STATUS AS TALKS WITH OTHER ALLIED DELEGATIONS THAT MIGHT WISH TO PURSUE SPECIFIC POINTS WITH U. S.

4. I WILL HAVE A BETTER FEEL FOR THE BEST DATE FOR EXPERTS' CONSULTATIONS HERE IN THE COUNCIL AFTER OUR NAC MEETING ON THURSDAY, MAY 10 BUT PREFERENCE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE THE WEEK OF MAY 28- JUNE 1. PREVIOUS WEEK ( MAY 21-25) MIGHT ALSO BE SUITABLE IF OTHERS PREFER, BUT PERMREPS WILL BE SEIZED WITH NPG AND SHAPEX BETWEEN NOW AND THEN AND ARE LIKELY TO BE BETTER PREPARED IF DETAILED DISCUSSION IS HELD OFF UNTIL END OF MONTH.  
RUMSFELD

NOTE BY OCT: USNATO 2224 NOT PASSED SECDEF.

SECRET

NMAFVVZCZ

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